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SECURITY INFORMATION

MAY 5 1952

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MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)

ATTENTION: Chief of Plans, DD/P

SUBJECT: Technical Services Staff Program for Fiscal Year 1953

REFERENCE: Memorandum from Chief of Plans, DD/P, same subject, dated 23 April 1952.

1. This responds to reference memorandum. Enclosed herewith is a proposed Tab B outlining the requirements which OPC desires TSS to fulfill.

2. This tab is prepared in terms of technical systems because it is intended as a basic guide for TSS in establishing its program. The listing of specific requirements would tend to limit the contribution of TSS to the solution of operational problems and would require a catalogue of a great number of items. Continuing consultation between representatives of TSS and the operating offices will result in designation of specific items for development.

3. You will note that this tab contemplates that TSS will foster basic research and development to discover and apply principles which will assist the operating offices in carrying out their missions. Because the missions of the CIA operating offices are different in character from those of other government agencies, much basic research would not be undertaken at all unless it were supported by CIA.

4. In many cases the enclosed description of requirements cites the ultimate in need; it is recognized that some may be difficult or impossible to fulfill.

5. Certain organizational arrangements suggest themselves.

a. There is need for TSS to participate in the broad planning of operational programs not only in order that TSS may guide its program to meet the needs of the operational program, but in order that the operational planners may plan in the light of what is or is not technically feasible.

b. There is a need

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b. There is a need for a point of contact within TSS to which operational planners may come with problems to which no specific technical solution is apparent. This point of contact, having a general knowledge of the PC mission and operational limitations, should be able to see what scientific developments might assist in solving the problem and to plan a tentative line of research and development.

c. There is a need for a group, representing the operating offices, to review requirements and priorities and to provide continuing guidance to TSS.

d. There is a need for a mechanism whereby the operational elements can be kept informed of the programs and the progress of TSS.

e. There is a need for agreement, placement of responsibility and a mechanism to bridge the transition between development and acquisition of items for storage and use both in the ordinary case and in the special case where urgent operational requirements demand that design be tentatively frozen so that procurement may be initiated.

These problems are being explored jointly with TSS and it is believed that suitable solutions will be worked out soon.

6. I am very pleased that [redacted] approach toward a program of research and development for the operating elements of CIA has been approved in principle. It seems to me that this approach, particularly as it stresses basic research and development to meet our unique operational needs, provides us with a new strength. I am happy to have had the opportunity to prepare the enclosed tab which attempts to state some needs in light of that approach.

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[redacted]
KILBOURNE JOHNSTON
Assistant Director for
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